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DEPARTMENT OF STATE WASHINGTON

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SUBJECT

REMARKS

AFGHANISTAN-Republic Proclamation

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July 17, 1973

Today early at 7:20 Radio Afghanistan broadcasted Sardar Daoud's speech who proclaimed Afghanistan as Afghanistan Democratic Republic, indicating that it will be non-aligned, neutral Afghanistan, having good friendly relations with all the countries in the world except Pakistan with whom Afghanistan has Pashtunistan conflict. He said that 10 years ago he had submitted proposals in the benefit of Afghanistan which were rejected by the King. In the last 10 years the situation had been worsened and affairs had been guided in favour of personal interests. Parliament was just for name and dictatorship was obvious, and the new Islamic Republic will look after national interests, with the help of young Afghan military-men. There will be no personal or party discrimination against anybody. The new regime is the result of nationas dreams, and it will protect the freedoms.

From time to time military march music and patriotic songs are being heard along with short announcements from the military government. Also religious prayers are said on the praying time over the radio (to make the religious people in the provinces happy).

The announcements indicate that the new Republic regime of Afghanistan requests the dear brothers and sisters to cooperate with the new regime and maintain peace and go to their jobs and perform them sincerely. The radio claims that there is peace all over the country and that the young militarymen have everything under control.

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The announcements add that the new Republic regime is ruling the country and that this will be a good system to lead the country towards progress and economic independence. The start has been good and the end will be good too. It is a pleasure to see democratic regime in the country. The people should work hard and be honest and sincere. The uprising has been successful and will be successful. People should respect the military government rules and maintain peace and discipline and should refrain from group and party meetings etc. Military is in full power and people be assured of peace and order.

Radio added that so far radios Vienna, France-Press, and All India Radio have announced the news. Rumors are that some people have been killed last night in the palace, Dehrazang, and new city area. The royal family is under arrest, and that tonight some important announcement will be made.

R.C. Mehra

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